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Dated: January 22, 2003

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(Lawrence E. Russ)

#15 Response
file M. Bauman
2/3/03

REPLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

Docket No.: 99P7451US
INTECH 3.0-038
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
J. Mandelman et al.

Application No.: 09/245,269

Group Art Unit: 2814

Filed: February 5, 1999

Examiner: D. Nguyen

For: FIELD-SHIELD-TRENCH ISOLATION FOR
GIGABIT DRAMS

Box AF
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

RESPONSE AFTER FINAL ACTION

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated November 8, 2002, Applicants submit the following remarks:

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested. Claims 1-2 remain in this application and are resubmitted for the Examiner's consideration.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-2 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kenney (U.S. Patent No. 5,523,593) in view of Kagaya (U.S. Patent No. 6,020,250). It is submitted, however, that the claims are patentably distinguishable over the references.

The Kenney patent is concerned with forming trenches *that contact the source/drain regions* rather than with *isolation trenches*. Openings 170 are formed in a

M. Bauman
1/3/03

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OK to enter
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